

Operations Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 1, 2025 8:30 AM
Lower Platte North NRD Office
P.O. Box 126
Wahoo, NE 68066

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
We don't have any unfinished business to address.
2. WILD NE AND OTHER PROGRAMS
There's nothing to report.
3. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE & OTHER ITEMS
The O & M crew packaged, delivered and started planting trees. Regular maintenance on vehicles and equipment.
 - 3.A. Rehabilitation of Cottonwood 21-A, NRCS & HDR
The 90 percent report is in the hands of the NRCS.
Butler Public Power District will be replacing utility poles that go across the dam on the downstream slope. This has been discussed and reviewed by HDR and Hazard Engineering. The Dept. of Dam Safety has also made recommendations on pole depth and locations. At the time of renovation construction those poles may need to be moved or replanted.
 - 3.B. Wanahoo Basin Damage & Repair, FEMA & Houston Engineering
Mike Sotak will give an update on their reported findings and future plans as the Education presentation at the May board meeting.
 - 3.C. Hay Areas on Recreation Areas for 2025
The bids for haying our recreation areas were due Monday, May 5 at 4:00 pm. There are 4 individuals who bid on the hay areas. Meduna Family Farms is high bid for Wanahoo areas "A" and "B" at \$41.00, Ken Cejka on Wanahoo area "C" at \$68.50, Dan Kadavy is high bid at Czechland at \$45.00, and Chuck Andel is high bid at Homestead at \$67.00. Bid results are attached. We need a motion to accept the high hay bids.
 - 3.D. Landowner Access Bridge Request over Rawhide Ditch 8
Back in February the Board approved that David Heller could build a UTV/Foot bridge over Rawhide Ditch 8 provided he do it in accordance with NRD direction and easement documentation.
Attached is a signed Revocable Easement Agreement (Ingress/Egress) for this bridge request. Heller has been given design plans that were developed by JEO and used when the irrigation bridge just downstream was rebuilt after the 2019 flood, Heller was asked to use this design for the footings.
 - 3.E. Wahoo Ducks Unlimited Duck Blind Replacement
During our prescribed burn in March, a Ducks Unlimited duck blind was a casualty of the fire. The District will be reimbursing DU \$1,600 for a duck blind.
A second blind was burnt during the accidental fire on the eastside of the lake. DU said they would handle that blind.

4. ROCK AND JETTY

Seth McGinn will be seeking cost-share assistance to maintain their jetties on the Platte River.

5. LAKE WANAHOO

5.A. Lake Wanahoo Permit Sales

For the month of March, the District received \$3,477.50 in annual park permit revenue.

5.B. Lake Wanahoo Camping Revenue

For the month of March, the District received \$4,520.31 in camping revenue.

5.C. Amphitheater at Lake Wanahoo

Chairman Jerry Johnson would like to have some discussion on the requested amphitheater at Lake Wanahoo.

5.D. Clint Johannes Education Building

The Clint Johannes Education Building at Lake Wanahoo was rented 20 times in April, with 1 NRD rental. Revenue for the month was \$1300.

6. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

6.A. Information

6.A.1. Radio & eAds

The KTIC radio ads for April featured LPNNRD recreation areas - this will continue through May.

The Wahoo newspaper e-ad featured environmental education opportunities for April. In May it will change to recreation area ads. There will also be a print ad in May.

The ads are attached.

6.A.2. Analytics

Top Posts for Facebook and X included:

- April Coffee, Lakeside flyer
- LPNNRD Natural Resources Grant availability
- Why does an 85-year-old plant a tree? video on Arbor Day
- Clint Johannes Education Building policy reminder
- Chemigation permits

On the LPNNRD website, we received traffic from NARD (86), Facebook (47), Nebraska Game and Parks (19), Nebraska tourism (6), X (0), Wahoo newspaper e-ad (0).

The reports are attached.

6.B. Education

6.B.1. past events

- April 2nd: Bishop Neuman M.S. survival skills (20)
- April 3rd: Bishop Neuman M.S. Survival skills(20)
- April 4th: Wahoo 2nd grade - Pollination (80)
- April 8th: Wahoo 1st grade - feathers (74)
- April 10th: Coffee Lakeside - Earth and Arbor Day (8)
- April 11th: Platte Center Elementary K-6th Earth and Arbor Day (136)
- April 14th: Fremont 4th grade AM Earth Day (75) / East Butler 7th grade Arbor Day (12)
- April 15th: Cedar Bluffs 3rd Grade - Earth Day (35)
- April 16th: Newman Grove Elementary Earth and Arbor Day (48)
- April 22nd: St. Wenceslaus Pre-K AM (28) / North Bend 5th Grade Earth Day (42) / Earth Day Event @ Lake Wanahoo (6)
- April 23rd: Wahoo Kindergarten Earth Day (85)
- April 24th: Fremont Ecofair (350)
- April 28th: Re-schedule North Bend (41) and Wahoo Kindergarten (85)
- April 30th: Fremont H.S. Water quality (45) / Presentation pm @ Let's play yoga studio Wahoo (4)

6.B.2. future events

- May 7th: Spring conservation Sensation
- May 12: St. Wenc Pre-K field trip
- May 14th: Ashland Greenwood water day
- May 15th: Wahoo 1st grade field trip
- May 17th: Bob Bruner Fishing Derby
- May 19th: Yoga at the lake
- May 20th: Wahoo 4th grade field trip
- May 21st: Bees and Brews
- May 22nd: Job Shadow in office

6.B.3. NRD Natural Resources Grant Update

Today was the application deadline and we didn't receive any applicaitons. We had one email from a Newman Grover teacher asking for an extension. Lacey and I will discuss our plan, but more than likley, we will extend it.

7. RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

7.A. Rural Water Operations

With spring weather and construction season starting the RWD had 22 locate requests to address between the two systems.

Hydrant flushing was also conducted on both systems.

Annual water quality reporting was completed this past month; all PWS (public water system) are required to annually post/notify all customers with the water system's water quality report from NDEE. Both reports have been posted on our

website, and publicly posted at both village post offices.

Included in this month's bills all customers will receive a cross-connection reporting survey. This is a state mandated document that all PWS customers are required to complete.

7.B. Colon System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read and bills mailed 5/1.

7.C. Bruno System

Routine monthly sampling completed, meters read and bills mailed 5/1.

7.D. Other

7.D.1. Basin Tour

Attached is information about the 2025 NRD Niobrara Basin Tour on June 9th-10th based in Valentine. Registrations are due (To Jill) on or before May 9th.

more info:

The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD), in collaboration with the Niobrara Basin NRDs, is pleased to invite you to the **2025 NRD Basin Tour**.

Join us for an immersive two-day experience as we explore key projects and programs dedicated to protecting Nebraska's natural resources.

Tour Highlights Include:

- CSS Farms - Seed potato operation
- Drip irrigation & Ponderosa Pine trials
- Fort Niobrara & Cub Creek Reservoir
- Minor Ranch & Niobrara Valley Vineyards
- Watershed management initiatives & Spencer Dam

Registration Information:

To reserve your seat, please submit your completed **by May 9th**. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged. Registrations received after May 9th will be subject to lodging availability.

Registration Fee Includes:

- All meals, breaks and activities
- Motor coach transportation
- Lodging for Monday night (*NARD will arrange hotel accommodation*)

If you plan to arrive early and need a room for Sunday night, be sure to mark this on your registration form. All lodgings must be booked through NARD.

Wanahoo Hay Bids 2025

Bid for Areas on Wanahoo

<u>Name Bidder</u>	Wildlife "A"	Wildlife "B"	Wildlife "C"	Czech.	Homestead
Meduna Family Farms	<u>\$ 41.00</u>	<u>\$ 41.00</u>	\$ 41.00		
Dan Kadavy	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	<u>\$ 45.00</u>	\$ 61.00
Ken Cejka			<u>\$ 68.50</u>		
Chuck Andel					<u>\$ 67.00</u>

High Bids for the areas are Underlined.

After recording return to:
Bromm, Lindahl, Freeman-Caddy & Lausterer
551 North Linden
P.O. Box 277
Wahoo, NE 68066

REVOCABLE EASEMENT AGREEMENT
(INGRESS/EGRESS)

THIS Revocable Easement Agreement (Ingress/Egress), hereinafter called Revocable Easement Agreement, is dated for reference purposes as of this ____ day of March, 2025, by the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District, a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter called "District", and Heller Farms, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company, whose principal place of business is 4224 N. Somers Avenue, Fremont, Nebraska 68025-7396, hereinafter called "User".

WHEREAS, District is the title holder and controlling political subdivision over the Rawhide Ditch 8 and recipient of a Construction, Storage and Flowage and Operation and Maintenance Easement as recorded the 11th day of February, 1987, in Dodge County Register of Deeds Misc Book 17, Page 533, which is recorded against a Tract of Land in Part of the NW1/2 of the SE1/4 of Section 32, T18N, R9E of the 6th P.M., Dodge County, Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as "Rawhide Ditch 8", and,

WHEREAS, User is the legal title holder to the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 18, Range 9 East of the 6th P.M., Dodge County, Nebraska, whose assessor parcel identification number is 270119189 ("User Property"), and,

WHEREAS, User asserts to District that it needs to traverse across Rawhide Ditch 8 in order to maintain and for its recreational purpose for the User Property, and,

WHEREAS, the User's access across the Rawhide Ditch 8 is hereinafter referred to as "Easement", and,

WHEREAS, the User does request and the District does hereby grant to the User a general ingress/egress easement over and across the Rawhide Ditch 8 for the sole exclusive purpose of gaining access to the northern portion of the User Property for small maintenance and recreational purposes, and,

WHEREAS, District and User do desire to set forth within this Revocable Easement Agreement terms and conditions pertaining to the User's access to the Easement and the maintenance thereof,

NOW, THEREFORE, FOR GOOD AND VALUABLE CONSIDERATION, THE RECEIPT OF WHICH IS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGED, District and User do hereby agree as follows:

1. That the findings here and above made should be and are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth at length herein.

1. That the District does hereby grant, convey and confirm unto the User, a non-exclusive revocable easement over and across the District Real Estate for ingress and egress to the User.

2. This Easement shall be revocable in nature by the District who shall be allowed to give User ten (10) days advanced written notice of its intention to revoke the Easement, for any reason, and to thereafter record with the Register of Deeds a revocation of the same. Thereafter the User shall discontinue all on-going uses of the Easement and shall remove all of its improvements and fixtures pertaining to said Easement. User acknowledges that revocation shall not constitute a public taking and does hereby waive and release all such claims on behalf of itself, its successors, and its assigns.

3. Maintenance and repair of the Rawhide Ditch 8 shall remain the District's responsibility provided, however, that if the User shall install some modifications then it shall first obtain written approval from the District and shall thereafter be solely responsible for any such modification and the maintenance of the same unless agreed mutually otherwise. It is understood by the Parties that the District has requested that improvements (whether immediate or long term) need to have concrete footings and must be kept down slope from the top for District mowing purposes.

4. No compensation is requested as part of this Agreement.

5. If the User shall damage Rawhide Ditch 8 through its ingress/egress use then it shall repair said damage at its sole cost and expense.

6. That User shall indemnify and hold District harmless against any claim for injury to any person or property which occurs (whether directly or indirectly), or is alleged to have occurred, during the course of User's use of said aforementioned Easement. This shall include any settlement, judgment, cost of defense, including legal fees and disbursements.

7. That this Revocable Easement Agreement shall be recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of Dodge County, Nebraska, at User's expense. The Register of Deeds shall index this Revocable Easement Agreement against the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 18, Range 9, Dodge County, Nebraska.

8. That this Revocable Easement Agreement shall be binding upon the parties hereto, their tenants, invitees, heirs, personal representatives, successors and assigns, and shall not terminate except by written directive of the District.

9. That this Revocable Easement Agreement is subject to and shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska. Time is of the essence of this Revocable Easement Agreement. No amendment of this Revocable Easement Agreement shall be effective unless reduced to writing and executed by the parties hereto. This Revocable Easement Agreement contains all of the understandings of the parties relating to the subject matter hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Revocable Easement Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

LOWER PLATTE NORTH NATURAL RESOURCES
DISTRICT, a Nebraska Political Subdivision,

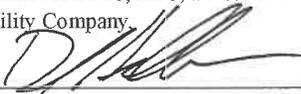
By: _____
Eric Gottschalk, its Manager

STATE OF NEBRASKA) ss.
COUNTY OF SAUNDERS)

The foregoing Revocable Easement Agreement (Ingress/Egress) was acknowledged before me on this ___ day of March, 2025, by Eric Gottschalk, General Manager and Authorized Representative of the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District.

Notary Public

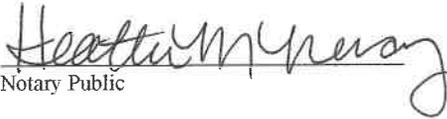
HELLER FARMS, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company

By: 
Dave Heller, Authorized Representative

STATE OF NEBRASKA) ss.
COUNTY OF Dodge)

The foregoing Revocable Easement Agreement (Ingress/Egress) was acknowledged before me on this 16 day of ~~March~~ April, 2025, by Dave Heller, Authorized Representative of Heller Farms, LLC, a Nebraska Limited Liability Company.




Notary Public

Environmental Education Opportunities

Hands-on sessions for students
in wildlife, forestry, soil and more!

Visit lpnnrd.org/education or
call the NRD at 443-4675
for availability.



LOWER PLATTE NORTH
Natural Resources District

Environmental Education Opportunities

**Hands-on sessions for students in wildlife,
forestry, water, soil and more!**

Visit lpnnrd.org/education or call the NRD
at 402-443-4675 for availability.



Rediscover the Outdoors

Kick back and relax for a weekend getaway at one of three recreation areas near you! Czechland Lake near Prague, Homestead Lake near Bruno, or Lake Wanahoo near Wahoo.



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Working today

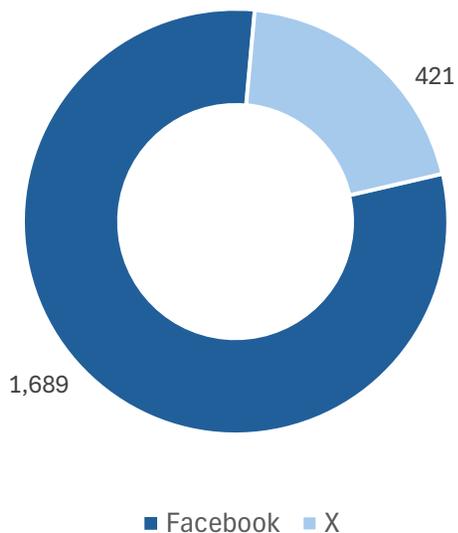
Conserving for future generations.



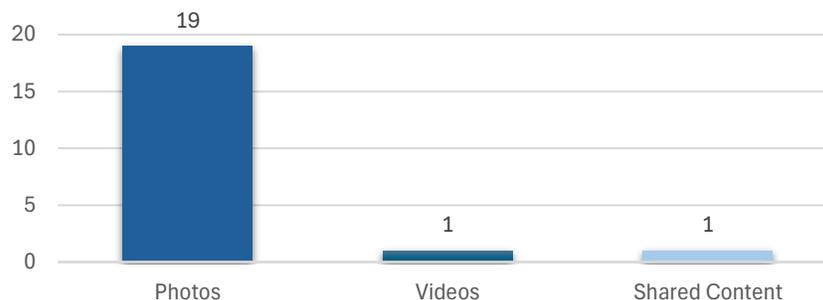


LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

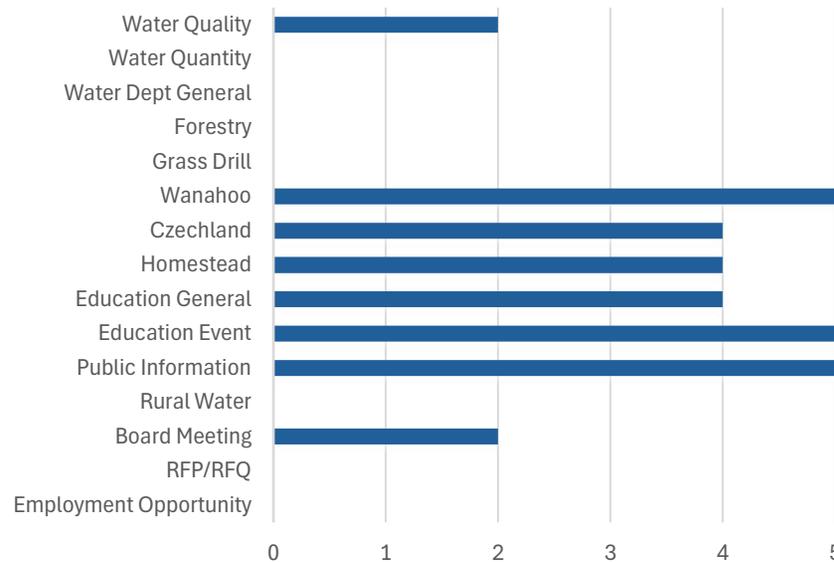
Social Media Followers



April Content



April Post Categories



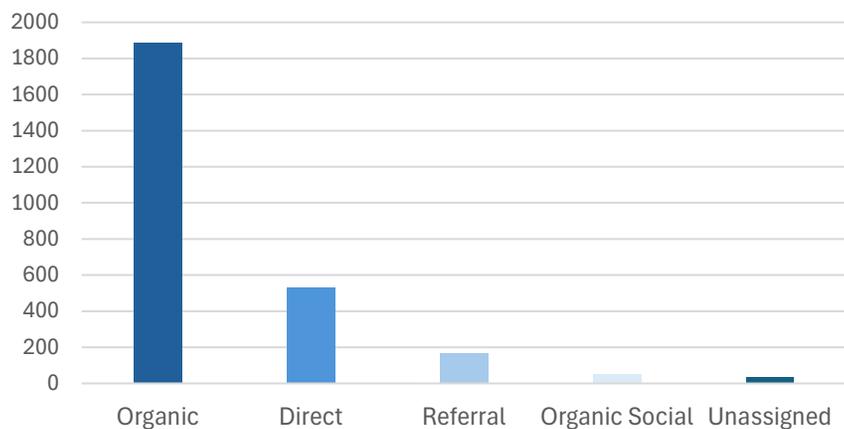
Facebook engagement ↓ 60%

X engagement ↓ 48%



LOWER PLATTE NORTH Natural Resources District

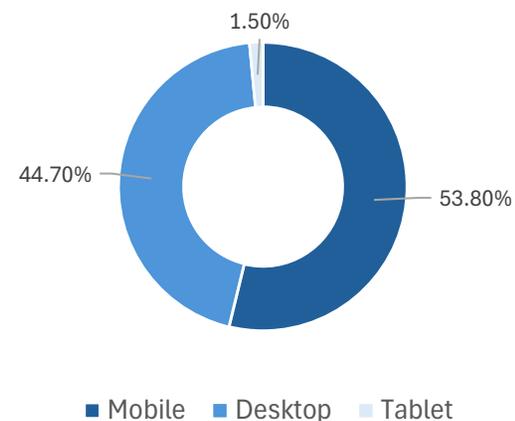
Traffic Channels



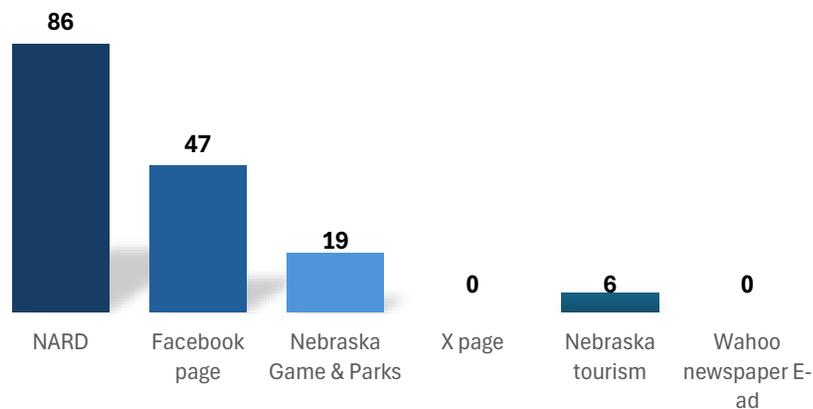
Users



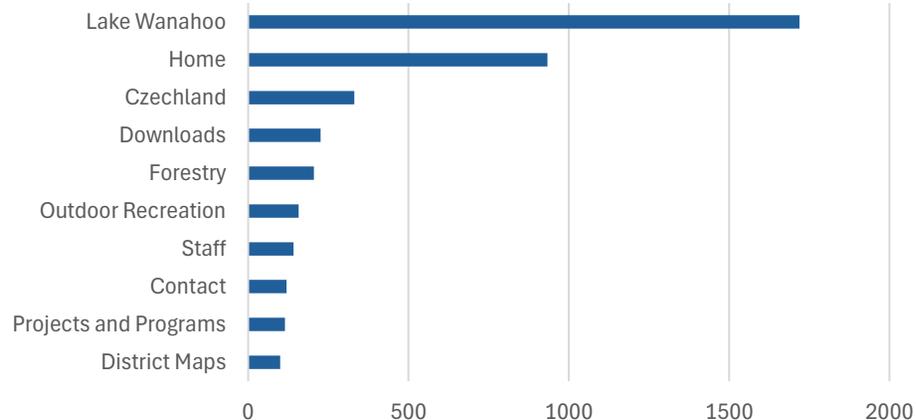
Devices



Traffic By Type



Website Top 10 Pages by Users





To: NRD Board of Directors, Staff and Conservation Partners
From: Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD)
Re: NRD Basin Tour | June 9-10, 2025
Date: April 25, 2025

You're Invited, Please Register Now!

2025 NRD Basin Tour – Niobrara Basin

Hosted by NARD in Partnership with the Niobrara Basin NRDs
Based in Valentine, Nebraska | June 9–10, 2025

The Nebraska Association of Resources Districts (NARD), in collaboration with the Niobrara Basin NRDs, is pleased to invite you to the **2025 NRD Basin Tour**. Join us for an immersive two-day experience as we explore key projects and programs dedicated to protecting Nebraska's natural resources.

Tour Details:

Monday, June 9

- 11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. (CDT): Lunch at the Niobrara Lodge patio (803 US-20, Valentine, NE)
- 12:00 p.m. (CDT): Bus departs the Niobrara Lodge
- Tour will showcase conservation efforts and innovative practices across the Middle Niobrara NRD
- Evening: Dinner at **Niobrara Valley Vineyards**, Nenzel

Tuesday, June 10

- 7:30 a.m. (CDT): Depart from hotel after breakfast for Spencer Dam
- Tour highlights initiatives across both Middle and Lower Niobrara NRDs
- Lunch included
- Return to Niobrara Lodge by 4:30 p.m. (CDT)

Tour Highlights Include:

- CSS Farms – Seed potato operation
- Drip irrigation & Ponderosa Pine trials
- Fort Niobrara & Cub Creek Reservoir
- Minor Ranch & Niobrara Valley Vineyards
- Lower Niobrara NRD facilities
- Watershed management initiatives & Spencer Dam

Registration Information:

To reserve your seat, please submit your completed registration form to the NARD office **by May 9th**. Space is limited and early registration is encouraged.

Registration Fee Includes:

- All meals, breaks and activities
- Motor coach transportation
- Lodging for Monday night (*NARD will arrange hotel accommodation*)

If you plan to arrive early and need a room for Sunday night, be sure to mark this on your registration form. All lodgings must be booked through NARD.

We look forward to seeing you in the Niobrara Basin this June!

Registration Form

Annual Basin Tour – Niobrara River Basin, June 9-10, 2025



Registration deadline is Friday, May 8. Cancellations received after May 19 are non-refundable.

Basin Tour registration fee will include the following:

- Monday, June 9: Lunch, conservation tour, snacks, beverages, activities, evening group dinner and hotel.
- Tuesday, June 10: Breakfast at the hotel, conservation tour, lunch, snacks, and beverages.

Registration options:

- Registration - with single room occupancy - \$450 per person
- Registration - with double room occupancy - \$390 per person
- Registration – with NO HOTEL accommodation – \$325 per person. If you live in the area and don't need hotel accommodation, use this option to register for the tour.

For those arriving on Sunday for the NARD board meeting, or for the Basin Tour, you must reserve your Sunday night lodging with NARD. Use this form to add Sunday lodging. This is an extra fee not included with basin tour registration.

NRD: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Extra Sunday night
Stay Niobrara Lodge - \$ 125
 (not included in Basin Tour registration)
Extra Sunday night – June 8
Extra Sunday night – June 8

Basin Tour Registration.
 Circle single or double occupancy (for each person registering)
Basin Tour Reg – Single/Double
Basin Tour Reg – Single/Double

List any special needs, including dietary restrictions: _____

Tour registration cost per person:

Extra Sunday night, June 8th lodging at Niobrara Lodge. Number of rooms needed - _____ x \$ 125 = _____
Basin Tour Registration = Single room occupancy. Number of registrations - _____ x \$ 450 = _____
Basin Tour Registration = Double room occupancy. Number of registrations - _____ x \$ 390 = _____
Basin Tour Registration = NO HOTEL accommodation. Number of registrations - _____ x \$ 325 = _____
Total submitted = _____

Submit payment and registration to: NARD, 8100 S. 15th St., Ste B, Lincoln, NE 68512. **Register prior to May 8 (cancellations are non-refundable after May 19).**